Police claim arrest of key suspect

KARACHI, Dec 31: Police have arrested an important activist of the Muttahida Qaumi Movement with his three other accomplices involved in running the MQM network in South Africa and also sending terrorists to India for training.

The suspect was identified as Nadeem alias Civic and his accomplices were identified as Babar Anis alias Babbar, Mirza Wasi Baig and Irfan Ahmed alias Imran.

DIG of Karachi Farooq Amin Qureshi told a press conference on Thursday that a large quantity of arms had also been seized from the suspects who made startling disclosures which gives an indication of anti-state intentions of the terrorists.

The DIG said the disclosures showed their sole aim was to weaken Pakistan.

According to him, the first disclosure by them was that a plan was hatched in 1996 to kill then prime minister Benazir Bhutto on the occasion of her visit to South Africa whereas the second disclosure was that a conspiracy was hatched to incite sectarian violence in Karachi.

According to the DIG, Nadeem alias Civic had stated that he reached South Africa in 1996 and added that the same year they were told about the directives received from Altaf Hussain and Nadeem Nusrat about the arrival of Benazir Bhutto in South Africa. They were told that Benazir Bhutto had got a large number of MQM workers killed in Karachi and therefore she be assassinated when she arrived in Johannesburg.

But since Ms Bhutto did not go to Johannesburg, this plan failed.

Babar Anis alias Babbar told the police that the Muttahida had planned a sectarian clashes between Ismaili and Sunni sects. Since the Ismaili community is brings investment from abroad, it brings stability to the national economy.

He said they killed Maulvi Akbar but the Muttahida's conspiracy for sectarian violence did not succeed.

According to the DIG, Nadeem said that even in South Africa the MQM had established a network of expatriates with Qamar Ghalib and Hammad Jilani responsible of extorting money from the business community especially the Memons settled there.

He said a local Muslim lady, Farida, used to prepare documents for sending MQM activists from South Africa to India. According to Nadeem, there were some 250 MQM workers in South Africa involved in heinous crimes in Karachi.

Police seized three KKs, including a snatched official KK, seven 7 MM rifles, 7 pistols of .30 bore, 2 revolvers, a mouser and about 400 rounds. — APP